

TABLE TOP AND FRAME

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/449,818 filed on Jan. 24, 2017 and titled "OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT 2016", which is incorporated fully herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] The present invention relates to outdoor equipment, outdoor furniture, outdoor camping equipment and parts and fittings therefore, and more particularly, relates to a collapsible/foldable table including a unique foldable tabletop and foldable legs

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

[0003] A large portion of the population enjoy camping and other outdoor activities. When engaged in these activities, however, many people enjoy some of the comforts of home. This includes a table or other surface which can be used to prepare food, serve food or place various objects including Cook stoves and the like for use during outdoor activities.

[0004] Although individuals engaged in the activities enjoy such comforts of home, weight, space and collapsibility is still an important feature. If the table is not able to be folded and stored in a small area and if it is too heavy, its usefulness will be lost to campers and outdoor enthusiasts. Accordingly, what is needed is a highly collapsible/foldable lightweight table which can be folded for purposes of packing it to the outdoor area but which can be folded to form a multipurpose, useful table.

SUMMARY

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0005] These and other features and advantages of the present invention will be better understood by reading the following detailed description, taken together with the drawings wherein:

[0006] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the foldable tabletop and table frame assembly according to the present invention;

[0007] FIG. 2 is a side elevation of view of the foldable tabletop and table frame assembly according to the present invention;

[0008] FIG. 3 is a top view of the foldable tabletop which forms a part of the foldable tabletop and table frame assembly of the present invention;

[0009] FIG. 4 is a bottom view of the foldable tabletop with foldable legs in place as part of the foldable tabletop and table frame assembly according to the present invention;

[0010] FIG. 5 is a bottom view of the foldable tabletop according to the present invention;

[0011] FIGS. 6A through 6D illustrate the foldable tabletop in various stages of being folded into a compact one-piece unit;

[0012] FIG. 7 illustrates the chamfered corner regions of the tabletop according to one feature of the foldable tabletop and table frame assembly according to the present invention;

[0013] FIG. 8 is a perspective view of the foldable legs according to another feature of the foldable tabletop and table frame assembly according to the present invention;

[0014] FIGS. 9A through 9D illustrate how the foldable legs according to one feature of the present invention folded into a small, compact square size;

[0015] FIG. 10 is a close-up perspective view of the folded table legs in accordance with one feature of the present invention; and

[0016] FIG. 11 is a top view of the foldable tabletop nested inside the foldable legs according to one feature of the foldable tabletop and table frame assembly according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0017] A feature of the present invention includes a two-piece table 70, FIG. 1 including a one-piece tabletop portion 72 and a one piece table leg portion 74. The tabletop portion 72, FIG. 6A, is made of 4 or more distinct independent, hinged segments 75 which allow the tabletop 72 to fold, origami style, into a small package 76 FIG. 6D. The tabletop 72, FIG. 7, includes 4 corners 77 having various chamfered ends or corners which allows for the creation of a handle 76 in the longer ends or corners 77a 77b of the tabletop 72.

[0018] The table leg portion 74 is a foldable, unitary structure including four legs 78, FIG. 8 and a top portion 80 on which the table top rests without any attachment, in one embodiment. The top portion 80 of the table leg portion 74 fits into a slot or groove 81, FIG. 5, on the underside of the tabletop 72. The table leg portion 74 is hinged and folds into a square 82, FIGS. 9A-9B. In this manner, for storage and packability purposes, the folded tabletop 76, FIGS. 10 and 11, can be nested or stored in the central opening of the folded leg frame 82.

[0019] The tabletop 72 may be made of a wood material, such as bamboo, as well as other suitable materials including but not limited to plastic, composite materials, metal and heavy-duty corrugated cardboard. Similarly, the table leg portion 74 may be constructed of plastic, lightweight wood, reinforced cardboard, composite materials or the like.

[0020] Modifications and substitutions by one of ordinary skill in the art are considered to be within the scope of the present invention, which is not to be limited except by the following claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A foldable tabletop and tabletop supporting leg structure comprising:

a tabletop comprising a plurality of segments, each of said plurality of segments coupled to an adjacent two of said plurality of segments by a hinge mechanism, said hinge mechanism configured for allowing one or more of said plurality of segments to fold along said hinge mechanism onto an adjacent one of said plurality of segments, said tabletop including a top surface and a bottom surface and a periphery, said bottom surface of said tabletop including a groove extending from said bottom surface of said tabletop forward to but not through said top surface of said tabletop, said groove disposed parallel to and proximate the periphery of said tabletop; and

a tabletop leg structure, said tabletop leg structure including 4 table legs, each of said 4 table legs coupled to 2 adjacent table legs by means of first and 2nd tabletop leg connector elements from among four tabletop leg connector elements, said 4 tabletop leg connector elements disposed proximate a top surface of said table leg